

FLD
77

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1

COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Domestic Pyrite Production	DATE DISTR.	2 October 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	50X1 3 50X1
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	
			50X1 50X1

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

Enclosure: Chvaletice Pyrite Mines (State, Army-2, Navy, Air-2, ORR, OSI, OCD-2).

50X1

SECRET

STATE	#*	ARMY	#*	NAVY	#*	AIR	#*	FBI		AEC					
-------	----	------	----	------	----	-----	----	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--	--

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X", Field Distribution By "#".)

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
SUBJECT Domestic Pyrite Production

50X1

DATE DISTR. 31 Jul 53

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

NO. OF ENCLS. 1 50X1
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE
ACQUIRED BY SOURCE [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

50X1

DATE OF INFORMATION [REDACTED]

50X1

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. In order to avoid or, at least, decrease pyrite imports from the West, Czechoslovakia has been making every effort to develop the pyrite mines near Chvaletice 5002N-1526E / Enclosure A7. These surface mines were opened in 1948 and 1949, and production began there in 1951. The life of these mines was estimated at 15 years. The material which was found in these mines was a slate containing a kind of pyrite and iron. This pyrite was called "kyzak" in Czech, not "kyz" (pyrite), because of its low sulphur content. The "kyzak" was separated from slate in a way similar to the assorting of coal. The "kyzak" contained only 8 to 15% sulphur, although it was originally hoped to obtain "kyzak" containing more than 20% sulphur. This material had to be subjected three times at least to a flotation process in order to obtain pyrite of about 40% sulphur content. This processing was made difficult by the insufficient capacity of the flotation equipment in the mines.
2. The pyrite output of the Chvaletice mines increased from some 50,000 tn. in 1951 to some 120,000 tn. in 1952. An output of 200,000 tn. of pyrites was planned for 1953. The actual output was always behind that planned and there was continual criticism of the way the mines were run. According to the managers for sulphuric acid production in the Hrusov (Ostrava) Chemical Works and the Usti nad Labem United Chemical Works, these pyrites from Chvaletice could be used without difficulty. I do not know any other details about the pyrite mines in Chvaletice.

---SECRET---

SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-2-

50X1

3. In addition to pyrites, a material with a manganese content was mined in the Chvaletice mines.
4. The pyrite layers in the Brasy area N50-L157, located near the old, small and most probably unused Kaznejov pyrite mines 4953N-1324E, were examined again in 1949 and found to be larger than had been supposed. Preparations for mining were begun there, but the opening of these pyrite layers was not effected and is not to take place in the near future. The same applies to a smaller pyrite layer near Kostolany, north of Kosice. The old and known pyrite mines in Krompachy 4855N-2052E, in Smolnik 4844N-2045E, and in Slatinany 4955N-1549E were set into operation again, I think sometime in 1950 or 1951. However, all these old layers are small and unimportant.
5. The mining of Czechoslovak pyrites has proved to be too expensive and cannot meet competition under normal conditions. Thus, for instance, in 1950 one kilogram of sulphur contained in imported first-quality pyrite cost 2.10 crowns/franco, Czechoslovak chemical works, while one kilogram of sulphur contained in pyrites from the Smolink mines cost 3.10 crowns/railroad car from mines. This latter price was about the same in 1952.
6. About 12,000 tn. of pyrites were obtained yearly in Czechoslovakia by roasting the used gas purifying mass. This quantity, however, would be lost because regeneration equipment for gas purifying mass was planned to be set into operation in the Stalin Works in Most 5032N-1339E in 1953 (CS-K-RC-1484) 50X1

For a report on Czech Pyrites Requirements and Imports

Enclosure:

A. Chvaletice Pyrite Mines

SECRET